

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	HIKITA, Takahisa	Confirmation No.:	7140
Application No.:	10/573,321	Group Art Unit:	1791
Filed:	March 24, 2006	Examiner:	Hug, Eric J.

For: PRESS BELT AND SHOE PRESS ROLL

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- Under 37 CFR § 1.97(b): (1) Within three months of filing of national application; (2) Within three months of date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application; (3) Before mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or (4) Before mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.
- Under 37 CFR § 1.97(c): After the period specified in § 1.97(b) but before the mailing date of either a final action under § 1.113 or a notice of allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first, and accompanied by either:
  - (1) A statement under § 1.97(e) as set forth below, or
  - (2) A \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p).
- Under 37 CFR § 1.97(d): After the period specified in § 1.97(c) but on or before payment of the issue fee, and accompanied by:
  - (1) A statement under § 1.97(e) as set forth below; and
  - (2) A \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e):

- Not necessary, because this IDS is filed under § 1.97(b) or § 1.97(c)(2).

- Each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or
- No item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned person after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

Form PTO 1449—Information Disclosure Citation is attached with copies of patents, publications, or other information of which Applicants are aware, which may be material to the examination of this application, and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be considered and made of record in this application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 504213 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,  
DITTHAVONG MORI & STEINER, P.C.

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